

CLAIMS

1. A cylinder valve including:

a single valve member in the form of a spring-loaded shuttle, the spring exerting a pressure on the shuttle in a valve-closing direction;

a valve seat against which the valve member bears in its valve-closing position;

a guide defining a channel in which the shuttle is able to travel;

a stop member able to be translated in the channel into and out of a position in which the stop member holds the valve member in its valve-closing position; and

a valve body which is engaged by the guide, the guide being able to be translated into a position in which the shuttle cannot be brought to bear against the valve seat.

2. A cylinder valve according to Claim 1, wherein the body has a pin index for connection to an external pipeline.
3. A cylinder valve according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, in which the shuttle has a head extending in the direction of the valve seat from a body of greater diameter than the head, the head having an orifice affording gas communication between an external port of the valve and a region of the channel intermediate the shuttle and the stop member.
4. A cylinder valve according to Claim 3, in which the spring is a compression spring, one end of which is seated in a recess in the shuttle, and the other end of which bears against the stop member.

5. A cylinder valve according to Claim 4 wherein the orifice in the head of the shuttle communicates with the said intermediate region of the channel via the recess.
6. A cylinder according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the valve seat is integral with the valve body.
7. A cylinder valve according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the stop member has a screw thread engaging a complementary screw thread in the guide.
8. A cylinder valve according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the stop member is carried on or integral with a valve spindle.
9. A cylinder valve according to Claim 8, wherein the valve spindle terminates in a handwheel.
10. A cylinder valve according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the guide has a screw-threaded outer surface engaging a complementary screw in the valve body.
11. A cylinder valve according to any one of the preceding Claims, in which the guide has a socket in which can be inserted a tool operable to effect a translation of the guide relative to the valve body.
12. A cylinder valve according to any one of the preceding Claims, in which the spring is a compression spring, one end of which is seated in a recess in the shuttle, the other end of which bears against the stop member.

13. A cylinder valve according to any one of the preceding Claims, in which the guide has an internal surface that acts as a stop preventing engagement of the shuttle and the valve seat when the guide is in the said position.
14. A gas cylinder fitted with a cylinder valve according to any one of the preceding Claims.
15. A gas cylinder according to Claim 14 containing a medical gas.